

MEET THE STAFF - SUMMER 2010



IRVING RECREATION CENTER CAMP CHARACTER

Melissa Weber-Arnold, Camp Director: My name is Melissa Weber-Arnold this will be my seventh summer as the director of the K-4 day camp at Irving Recreation Center. This past school year I taught Special Education at Zeman Elementary School. I graduated with a dual Elementary Education and Special Education degree from the University of Nebraska in December of 2007. Over my ten years with Lincoln Parks and Recreation, I have worked with a combination of programs offered by the City, which include Before & After School Recreation, Summer Playgrounds, Day Camp and also the Community Learning Centers. When I am not working I love to spend time with my family and my puppies. I also love to dance and water-ski. This past year I also stated to coach for Special Olympics as well!



Lacey Konwinski: Hi my name is Lacey Konwinski. This is my 8th year with Lincoln Parks and Recreation day camps. I also teach 1st grade at Beattie Elementary and have done so for the last 5 years. When I am not working with children I enjoy being outside, working out, reading and relaxing with friends and family. I look forward to working with you and your children during the course of the summer!



Tammy Peterson: Hello my name is Tammy Peterson. I am so excited to be back at Irving for my 5th summer of working Summer Day Camp for Lincoln Parks and Recreation. During the school year I work in the Special Education Department at Southeast High School as a Para Educator. In my spare time I like to watch and participate in a variety of sports. I am looking forward to another wonderful summer and getting to know all the kids!



Marcus Payne: Hi my name is Marcus Payne and this is my third year working for Irving Recreation Center's Summer Day Camp. I currently finished my junior year at the University of Nebraska where I am majoring in Broadcast Journalism. Some of my hobbies include playing golf, teaching hip-hop and break dance, doing magic tricks and anything I can do outside. I'm extremely excited to get this summer started and can't wait to see some of the returning kids and new faces.



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Kelli Rollen: My name is Kelli Rollen and I am from Grand Island, Nebraska. I graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in May 2010. I will be attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to receive my Masters Degree in Speech-Language Pathology in the fall. In my free time I enjoy running, watching movies and spending time with family and friends. This is my second summer with Lincoln Park and Recreation and I am excited for it to begin.



Rob Hoppe: Hey guys my name's Rob Hoppe. This is my first summer here at Irving and I'm super excited. I attend Southeast Community College and I'll be attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln next fall where I'll be studying education. Some of my hobbies include sports (football mainly), reading and being outside. I love being around kids and am always here to listen so you can come to me with any of your concerns! Let's get ready for the best summer ever!



Ellie Tasler: Hey, I'm Ellie Tasler! This is my second summer working at Irving Recreation Center and my first one as a day camp counselor. I just completed my freshman year at the University of Dallas, where I am a mathematics major who is becoming certified in education. But don't worry, I am still a Husker fan. I enjoy singing, cooking, and hanging out with my family and friends. I can't wait to get to know all the kids and have a blast at camp this summer!



Sarah Sobotka: Hi my name is Sarah Sobotka, and I was born and raised in Columbus, Nebraska. I am currently a senior attending UNL pursuing a Dual-Matriculation degree in Spanish and Art. This is my first summer at Day Camp with the kids, but I have worked for the Department for about a year as a Bilingual Preschool Teacher. When not working at Day Camp, I enjoy reading, traveling and of course art. I am excited to explore new ideas and activities with your children in camp this summer!



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IRVING RECREATION CENTER CAMP CHALLENGE



Kristin Malone, Camp Director: This is my fourth summer at day camp, and the first summer as the Mid-Level Camp Director. I will graduate in December from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a degree in Mid-Level Education for Industrial Technology and Math. I enjoy listening to all types of music and play several instruments myself. I love playing tennis, completing Sudoku puzzles, and bike riding. I'm looking forward to another fantastic summer at day camp!



Zachary Watkins: I am a senior graphic design and student athlete at Union College. I love to watch and play all different types of sports. I also love drawing, painting, and print designing. I also love to listen and perform music. This will be my second year as a camp counselor for the Irving Recreation Center Day Camp, and I am really excited as to what the summer will bring.



Brett Tomes: This is my second year at summer day camp. I am a senior at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln with a major in business administration. I enjoy any and all kinds of sports, although my favorite sport is soccer. I am an outdoors type of person and enjoy all types of nature. I am super excited for camp to begin this summer.



Kaytlin Williams: I am a senior at UNL! My major is in Family Science and minor is in Sociology. I love spending time with young people and learning from them. I work part-time at Irving Rec during the school year and will be working full-time at the day camp this summer! I am hoping to have a lot of fun together this summer!



Alex Hartmann: This will be my second year working for the mid-level camp here at Irving. I am currently attending The University of Kansas with a major in business and international studies. In my spare time I really enjoy playing music and tennis! I'm pumped to make this summer the best summer ever!

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IRVING RECREATION CENTER AMERICORPS MEMBERS

Adrienne Lemmer: My name is Adrienne Lemmer. This is my second year at summer day camp. I am planning and facilitating clubs this summer such as "Go Green," literacy, character counts, healthy living, and community service. I am also responsible for scheduling, training, and supervising our Day Camp youth volunteers. I currently attend UNL and am majoring in International Studies and French. I enjoy reading, writing, listening to music, spending time outdoors, and learning. I'm looking forward to another summer at day camp.



Erica Irvin: I am a freshman at Southeast Community College. This is my first year as an AmeriCorps Member and my first year at Irving as well. I love to work with the children and youth at the rec. center. I hope to someday advance my career as a youth worker so that I can continue to work with young people and help them to make a positive difference in their own lives.

IRVING RECREATION CENTER OFFICE

Dan Payzant, Center Director: I am employed full time by the City of Lincoln and am responsible for managing all aspects of operation at Irving Recreation Center. My first Day Camp job with Parks and Rec. was at Irving in 1998. I have a degree in Education and am currently a graduate student in the Department of Child, Youth, and Family Studies at UNL. Earlier this year I earned credentials as a Certified Park and Recreation Professional from the National Recreation and Park Association. I am married and live in an old house with my wife, two dogs, and two cats. When I am not working or studying, I enjoy reading, home improvement, gardening, dog walking, and porch sitting.



Kara Maybee, Lead Supervisor: I have worked with Lincoln Parks and Recreation since 2005, first at Park Teen Center and now at Irving Recreation Center. I have a degree from SCC in Human Services. In addition to supervising staff and programs, I do a lot of work in the office on the business side of operations. I am usually the person you will talk to if you have questions regarding registration, payments, or child care subsidies.